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[54] **METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR SETTING CHARACTER STYLE PREFERENCES IN A PEN-BASED COMPUTER SYSTEM**[75] Inventors: **Ernest H. Beernink**, San Carlos, Calif.; **Donna M. Auguste**, Lyons, Colo.; **Eugeny Chechetkin**, Cupertino, Calif.[73] Assignee: **Apple Computer, Inc.**, Cupertino, Calif.

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[58] Field of Search 382/13, 39, 57, 59, 382/3, 14

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Primary Examiner—Leo H. Boudreau*Attorney, Agent, or Firm*—Hickman & Beyer[57] **ABSTRACT**

In one method for setting character style preferences

according to the present invention, a character style preference area is initially activated. Then, a plurality of variant character styles are displayed for a selected character with each character style representing a distinct way of writing the selected character that is recognized by the system recognizer. Inputs are then received, which indicate and set the probability that an input character style will be in a form similar to the selected character style. Other inputs include the selection of a different character for display, selection of a variant character style from the displayed area, selection of a reset command, and selection of a probability weight for a selected variant. The method further includes the slow redrawing of a selected variant within a selected variant group to demonstrate to the user the input strokes forming the selected variant. A computer system for performing the methods in accordance with the present invention is also described. The apparatus includes the mechanisms for activating a character style preference editor and for drawing a plurality of variant character styles. Also included is a mechanism for setting a use probability factor that is to be associated with the selected character style. Further included are the mechanisms for determining the selection of a probability level for the character styles and for shading the character styles appropriately to reflect the selected probability levels.

30 Claims, 9 Drawing Sheets